



## CONTENTS

### NEWS

SIFE VISITS LA

TAKE BACK THE  
NIGHT

### OPINIONS

RESPONSE TO  
INFORMALITY

AMERICA IS  
AWESOME

### FEATURES

THE FLYING  
SPAGHETTI MONSTER

THE SOCIAL NETWORK

### SPORTS

PUMAS WIN  
HOMECOMING

MEN'S BASKETBALL  
RANKED 10TH

### OMEGA

DATING ADVICE



## Pumas Celebrate Homecoming

By Meigan Rennels  
Staff Writer

This year's homecoming was kicked off with an exciting start on Monday October 4, 2010 with an 80s dress up day, and trivia in the ballroom. The spirit days continued to include School of Rock, Rock Star, Look-a-Like and Puma Spirit dress up days which all led up to the big game on Saturday afternoon.

There was a plethora of activities happening on campus the week leading up to the homecoming game such as guitar hero in the cafeteria, sidewalk chalk competitions, a dorm hallway decorating contest and the traditional medallion hunt.

Throughout the week dorms were encouraged to attack each other by hanging up signs in as many dorms as possible. This was a new aspect of the Dorm Wars that took place Saturday morning on the IM field. The Dorm Wars encouraged unity and brought students together.

"I felt a new sense of pride. I have never had that much school spirit in my life," said Junior Applied Music major, Ethan Avina.

The activities on campus kept going with the I-Spy competition where multiple stuffed pumas were hidden around campus for students to collect as many as possible and the medallion hunt which was completed with the discovery of the medallion around

the flagpole outside of Halleck. Homecoming week brought all sorts of fun to students on campus to build up to game day.

"I thought homecoming week was amazing; seeing all the students preparing and showing their school spirit was great," said Alicia Allen, Junior Psychology major.

The game on Saturday, October 9 brought a new set of activities and excitement for students on campus. The game itself was a blow-out, with the Pumas playing a great game. It also offered a variety of ways for students to enjoy themselves, from the beer and brat tent for over 21 students, to rock climbing walls and blow-up obstacle courses.

Many alumni returned to campus for the game, packing the stands and filling campus. Graduated students were glad to return to campus and support the Pumas and visit with old friends. Homecoming is a time for past Pumas to gather together and reminisce about old times at Saint Joseph's.

"Coming back to campus this weekend felt like coming back home. It was really nice to catch up with everyone that I've spent my collegiate career with, and it was interesting to see how the real world has treated them since graduation," said 2010 alumnus Katie Misiak.

Homecoming was a great success, bringing

fun and excitement to campus for a great week of events and spirit activities. Campus was full to the brim with alumni and visiting families. Students on campus had a great time celebrating homecoming and showing school spirit. 2010 Homecoming was a week to remember.

*Homecoming Queen, senior Angela Burgeson poses after being crowned. Homecoming King Cameron Cullers was unable to attend the ceremony. (Courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.)*



## Shack City Raises Awareness about Homelessness

By Brandon Bennett  
Staff Writer

On October 6th, the Habitat for Humanity organization hosted its Shack City event. Habitat for Humanity members volunteer their time and talent to eliminate poverty housing in the United States and worldwide. Shack City requires students to spend a night sleeping in a box, in an effort to raise awareness of homelessness.

The group provided large cardboard boxes for students to use. All participants made camp in front of the whispering wall outside the Halleck Center. Most of the students brought

along markers to decorate their temporary homes. The participants were blessed by fair weather and a clear sky.

Three members of the band, Kelso Daning, a sophomore music education major, Alex Lewandowski, a junior music business major, and James Winter, a senior music and computer science major, sat in the middle of the fountain and played music. Alex played the guitar while Kelso and James used trashcans for drums.

"We were asked to come out and play some music," Alex says. "To entertain and lift people's spirits."

Freshman math education major Sarah Stines was one of the courageous few who left the safety of their dorm rooms to sleep outside. Equipped with a sleeping bag and music, she was set for the night.

"The goal is to raise awareness for homelessness," she says. "It's actually kind of fun sleeping outside in a box, although doing it every night wouldn't be fun. I wish that more people would do it, so that we can have a bigger impact."

"We're here from seven at night until seven in the morning," says Jessica Curbis, a freshman mass communications major. "It's cozy sleeping in a box. We're having fun while doing

something good."

Not only does Habitat for Humanity sponsor events on campus to raise awareness, but also nationwide. The organization has provided relief in places like Mississippi, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Texas. They also work closely with Jasper County affiliates to repair old houses.

Despite a lower number of people than hoped for, Shack City held plenty of fun for those involved. Habitat for Humanity sponsors trips over Thanksgiving break and Spring break. Students travel to other states to assist in building projects. Anyone interested in Habitat for Humanity can contact Fred Berger and get involved today.



*Students play music to pass the time at Shack City. (Courtesy of Brandon Bennett).*



*Brittany Rooney and Mary Delach sit in boxes at Shack City. (Courtesy of Brandon Bennett).*

# SIFE in Los Angeles

By Dan Zimmer  
Staff Writer

Saint Joseph's College Student, Samantha Tapia, was recently sent by SIFE to Los Angeles to attend a conference. Samantha not only enjoyed the perfect and sunny weather, while students at Saint Joseph's College felt the effects of fall start to come, but she attended a worldwide conference where she was able to connect with a large community of business leaders. She says she learned much and was grateful for the opportunity.

The conference was named the Chartis Credit Counseling Project. Through out the conference students from over 80 schools across the nation were able to hear of the projects and ideas each other had.

Samantha Tapia quickly noticed some projects that stood out. "I think we should now take a hands on approach to get more people involved. We do many projects, but there are things we

can't dig our hands into," says Tapia.

Some projects included large scale board games, infomercials and PSA's, and others included senior computer simulators for credit score and competency.

Each school showed their projects off and out of all the projects ten were then selected. These ten then got to present and talk about their school's project in front of the head SIFE council. There was no winner selected from this council meeting.

SIFE is a world wide organization within over 40 countries which partners with university students to provide better chances, opportunities, and awareness on business topics. Past events SIFE has held on campus have been seminars and sit-in lectures on how to be better financially aware and how to keep a spenders credit score in line. Their goal is to connect generations of leaders to form a better world for tomorrow.

Samantha Tapia's trip is one

of these ways of bridging the gap between generations.

Sam Tapia was chosen by Professor Roy for her commitment to the SIFE program here on campus. She is one of few seniors involved and Professor Roy thought it be best that she represent Saint Joseph's College.

She had all expenses paid for by the student business organization. Some of those expenses included hotel fees, air fare, and meals. During her time in Los Angeles, Tapia was able to meet with some of the big business managers and financial experts that lead the country. "I'm really glad I was able to go and made the most of my time," says Tapia, "SIFE should be better in the future because of this event. I cannot wait to see how the club evolves." SIFE meets every Wednesday in the Core Building. If you are interested in attending a meeting please email Professor Roy at groy@saintjoe.edu



Above: Samantha takes a pictures in front of the Huntington Beach Surf Shop. Photo Courtesy of: Samantha Tapia

## Take Back The Night

By Jessica Ruschke  
Staff Writer

"Shatter the Silence, Stop the Violence." On October 3-5 students promoted awareness and support for issues regarding Domestic Violence through Take Back the Night.

Mass was dedicated to the effort of Take Back the Night Sunday, October 3. Monday, October 4 students gathered for a bonfire at Lake Banet, and the last night, October 5, students came to Halleck Student Center for a rally. Take Back the Night also gave students opportunities to create luminaries by decorating paper bags.

At the rally, three students spoke about their experiences and sophomore English Creative Writing major Anna Rohaly read a poem she wrote for a friend. "She told me once she was raped, and I felt really mad that someone

could do that to another person, and I went back to the computer. The words were already there, I just had to type them," said Rohaly.

Senior Mass Communication major Jen Lindahl decided to speak up so people would be aware rape does happen. "I find people who have either heard me speak at events like Take Back the Night or just little bits of my story connected on a better level than just being lectured on the topic," said Lindahl.

Another speaker, sophomore Biology major Sarah Kooi felt students should know this is a problem and those who have experienced these issues should know they are not alone. "I feel the readers should know abuse happens to people our age, and it's extremely difficult to deal with, but with the right support, it's manageable," said Kooi.

"I hope after hearing my

speech I at least touched someone who knows someone or has been a victim and reassured them we can stop this and not allow it to continue if we all stick together and work on stopping the silence," said Lindahl.

Several students felt the speakers stood out from the rest of the events of the rally. "I am amazed that the people who gave their testimonies had the courage to do so. Their passion to end this cycle of violence has no bounds, and their experiences taught them (and me) more about life too," said sophomore History major James Bertucci.

Sophomore Biology major Amanda Rousseau reacted to the speakers in a similar way. "It is sharing life experiences to inform others about the hazards that are out there and the people it affects. It's empowering to know there is help," she said.

Co- Coordinator for Take

Back the Night Sophomore Elementary Education major Jessica Bealor was also inspired by the stories. "They mean so much to me. Those women are so strong, and I thank each of them from the bottom of my heart for helping to 'Shatter the Silence,'" she said.

Besides attending the rally and other events, several people participated in Take Back the Night by creating 250 luminaries by decorating paper bags that held candles and glowed outside of Halleck Student Center the night of the rally.

Rohaly made several of the bags. "I know how hopeless it could feel. I wanted to reach out to others who have experienced that and maybe give them some hope."

Head Coordinator Sophomore Elementary Education major Jessica Bealor described the luminaries as a "spiritual and impressive sight."

Rohaly arrived early for the rally and read all of the luminaries. "It was so cool to

read not only my words but other's words. It was touching and inspiring to know people do care about victims who have experienced assault."

The rally ended with live music played by co-coordinator sophomore Elementary Education major Katy Coryell, senior music major James Winter, Nathan Wagner, and Bertucci.

The bonfire included a lantern ceremony. Students wrote on the lantern and then it was lifted up into the air. "[The luminaries and lanterns] show support in a spiritual silent way and helps others express themselves, even if they don't feel comfortable speaking out loud," said Bealor.

Overall, the event went well, with more people in attendance than the past year. The speakers and event participants encourage others to come out next year. "I feel Take Back the Night is something everyone should try to attend once at some point because this is where we start making changes," said Lindahl.



Students at the Take Back the Night Rally try to keep warm. Photo Courtesy of: Jessica Ruschke

**Upcoming Events**  
**October 23: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
 - American Cancer Society Walk  
**October 26: 2:00 PM - Women's Soccer vs Findlay**  
 4:30 PM - Men's Soccer vs University of Findlay  
 7:00 PM - Jonathan Mooney - Neuro-Diversity Advocate-Author (Shen)  
**October 27: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Trick or Treat with JCYC**  
**October 31: Happy Halloween! Trick or Treat for the Hungry**

# Response to “Informality”

By Sabrina Butts  
Staff Writer

Recently, Caleb Thomas has been writing articles in favor of ways that could improve our society as a whole, perhaps guiding it away from the stereotype of selfish, brutish Americans that we have gained in the eyes of others. Some of this is true. We are a very material and crude culture. Just one look at what we value for entertainment in some ways underlines this where we revel in reality shows that pry deeply into the personal lives of celebrities and every move they make.

However, there are some things that Thomas recommends that refuse to sit well with my ideals and values. Both his articles in the most recent paper and the first paper of the year have many pieces of advice that have caused uproars in a variety of circles. Since the first article is at least four weeks old, I will simply focus on the most recent article concerning informality.

Thomas is very correct that our society is devaluing respect and proper etiquette in regards to familiarity and dress. I personally think our elders and professors should not be addressed on a first name basis except at their insistence. Elders and those that have earned degrees should always be addressed by a title that

is appropriate, such as “Mr./Ms” or “Professor,” etc.

However, here is where I begin to disagree with Thomas. I do not think that I need to refer to my peers, my equals in the classroom, by such a title. I think there would be a deterioration of community and common interests if I were to address my neighbor in my dorm by Ms Smith or Ms Jones. As peers in a learning community as tightly knit as this campus should be, given its thousand some population, there is a kind of familiarity that is built up where we see each other in Core and in our classes every day for four years. We are not strangers and to address each other as mere acquaintances met briefly on the whim of chance would be rude.

Thomas also addressed the choice of clothing people make on a daily basis. I agree, it is becoming sloppy and at times completely unseemly. I have seen more than one girl on this campus whose outfits leave nothing to the imagination of a scarecrow, let along grown adults. The same is true of some of the men, where their clothes are sloppy, wrinkled, and soiled. Wearing sweats to class, in my opinion, is an affront to the professors who spent many years, sometimes decades, in the pursuit of knowledge to hand down to us. The same goes for pajamas.

Paying several thousands of dollars to get an education towards a professional degree should not result in such lazy attire.

Once again, though, I must respectfully disagree with Thomas on the point of dress. Jeans are neither inappropriate dress, nor are they childish. My father is a hard-working man who works long, late shifts and wears jeans everyday. He is a laborer and it would be wildly impractical for him to wear dress pants to do his job. He is also not childish. Beyond that, however, because the argument that as college students we are headed towards professions that would require such dress, I offer another argument.

Jeans are practical and inexpensive. Many people on campus are here of their own abilities and out of their own pocket. This means there is little money left over for wardrobes. This is why there is a career closet on campus

for those who need an interview outfit. Dress clothes, while professional and perhaps more appealing, are more expensive. A pair of jeans could easily be found at Wal-Mart for less than \$20 that would last a very long time and would withstand a stain or two. Dress pants that are meant to last are much more, beginning at \$30 and skyrocketing after that, where a single stain would be their ruin, no matter how speedy you are with a Tide pen.

Yes, Thomas makes many good points on things that should be improved about this campus and our society in general. However, they are sometimes impractical and do not fit into the way of life many of us lead. It is a fact that respect is downplayed to an embarrassing point, but we also cannot deny that in a more personal world, we have more responsibility to do our best for each other because there is not Me and The Rest of the World which could be ignored in a time where familiarity is reprehensible except for a select few.

# America is Awesome

By Gloria Thornburg  
Staff Writer



America is awesome. This is true for many reasons, and this is just a sampling of perspective. Our country was founded by people who either could not make it in the Old World or at least thought they could improve on it. Our Founding Fathers saw that the monarchy was cramping their style, so they made their own country where the leadership was accountable to the people - not the other way around. This is the first of many reasons why America is awesome.

Many of the people who have come to this country did not do so for ideological reasons, but because of rejection. For instance, the State of Georgia began essentially as a debtors prison. The Old World rejected their debtors, among other people it did not deem as worthy. However, most of the rest of our founding society came

here because they did not have the success they wanted in the Old World, which is tantamount to the Old world implicitly rejecting them socially and economically. Again, if you will, the Old World was cramping their style.

People felt rejected by society, so they came here because they thought that here they could build a better life. One implication of this is delightful: our country was founded by people who were optimistic and who could dream of a better future. Essentially, this means that we got all the dreamers and creative minds and that all the boring people, content with their lot and afraid to rock the boat or do anything interesting, stayed back in the Old World. Americans have more fun!

This country is one based around the idea of equal respect and

rights for all citizens. (Granted, the designation of citizenship has changed over time, but that just shows we have a self-correcting system that will change for the better.) Here, all people are valued. Admittedly, there is still a class system to a certain extent (we can only restructure society so many elements at a time). However, to our credit the class system we have in place is very fluid and much less important to us than our concept of the American Dream.

The American Dream, which is the idea that hard work is rewarded, and rags-to-riches stories are a huge part of our culture and our concept of human ability. The most prominent members of our society share these stories, whether they are leaders like President Barack Obama, entertainers like Eminem and LeBron James, or innovators like Sergey Brin. (Sergey Brin founded Google, but only after his family

was so fed up with discrimination in their native Russia that they moved to America where they and their young son could fully exercise their awesomeness. Without America we would have no Google or basically anything to do with computers.)

When it comes down to it, America is about the respect of natural ability and the ability to innovate. This means we will have a little lack of respect for things like titles, tradition, and class structure. Because of this lack of respect, we are more casual, more free, more competitive, and as a result more innovative and able to have our best abilities show through.

America was founded as an innovative and grand ideological experiment, and it is the most awesome experiment of all time. The whole world is made more awesome because America is awesome.

## Have your voice be heard!

Are there people or groups on campus that you think deserve to be recognized for their contributions to the campus community?

Are their concerns in *the Observer* that need to be addressed?

Do you have any concerns with policies on campus?

Are there issues you think need to be discussed?

Tell us about it! The Student Forum is your way to speak out and have your voice be heard. Please send your letters to Eileen Mills-Groninger at [emp6839@saintjoe.edu](mailto:emp6839@saintjoe.edu) attached as a Word document.

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We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph's College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

# Punk Rocker's Solo Album Could Use a Touch-Up

By Michael Garrity  
Features Editor

Let me start off by explaining the back story behind this compilation of songs (I'm going to have a hard time referring to this particular piece of work as an "album"). Matt Skiba, the co-songwriter and singer as well as guitarist of Chicago punk rock band the Alkaline Trio writes a lot of songs; it is his job after all. Over the years he has gathered a stockpile of material and wanted to officially release the tunes. Apparently, when friends, family, co-workers, and whoever else heard the initial demos he had put together, they encouraged him to release them as they were, without rerecording anything. Thus, the entire 16-song disc is a series of tracks recorded in very few takes on a home computer.

I love Matt Skiba, and the Alkaline Trio is one of my all-time favorite bands, but I wish more

than anything he hadn't taken that advice. *Demos* is made up almost entirely of songs that are all similar to the distinct songwriting style that fans of Skiba have come to expect.

There aren't very many surprises on the disc; even the entirely electronic track "I Can't Believe You" sounds like it could just be a track off of his older electronic side project, Heavens. The compilation's best song, "Haven't You," a beautiful acoustic track about the loss of loved ones, is on par with the other great acoustic songs Skiba has produced in the past on both Alkaline Trio albums and his split EP with Kevin Seconds.

"S.O.S.," essentially a B-side from the last Alkaline Trio album, is also a standout track largely because it prominently features just Skiba's voice and an electric guitar, which helps alleviate some of the big issues with most of the

songs here.

I went in expecting some pretty low quality stuff, but still hoping that Skiba's songwriting would make things okay. It really doesn't. At times, the poor recordings can literally make the songs unlistenable, like the harsh-sounding guitars on "Merry-Go-Down." At other times, really good songs are ruined by a lack of polish. "Red, White, and You" is a terrific song, except that the guitars drown out the vocals in the chorus, making the lyrics hard to decipher. Likewise, the third track, "Angel of Deaf," has the potential to be a really powerful song, but could use some drums and layered vocals when going into the chorus. In the end, the real disappointment with *Demos* is to listen to the songs and hear just how good they could be with some minor tweaking, cleaner production, and better mixing.

I still love Matt Skiba, though.



(Photo courtesy of: [http://www.israbox.com/uploads/posts/2010-07/1278979983\\_51hndoufrl\\_ss500.jpg](http://www.israbox.com/uploads/posts/2010-07/1278979983_51hndoufrl_ss500.jpg))

GO DOWNLOAD THESE SONGS...NOW!

Haven't You?                      Red, White, and You  
S.O.S.                                You Didn't Feel A Thing

OVERALL GRADE

D+

1.	You Didn't Feel a Thing	
2.	Angel of Deaf	Release Date
3.	I Can't Believe You	August 10, 2010
4.	Haven't You?	
5.	How the Hell Did We Get Here?	Producers
6.	Cradle to the Grave	Matt Skiba
7.	Red, White, and You	Helmut the Pitbull
8.	Radio Vienna	
9.	S.O.S.	Record Label
10.	Nausea (Cruel and Unusual)	Asian Man Records
11.	Into Thin Air	
12.	Merry-Go-Down	
13.	Field of Darkness	
14.	Special	
15.	Razor Blade Blues	
16.	Magicland	

# It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's a Flying Spaghetti Dish!

By Corey Dowds,  
Staff Writer

In the beginning, there was an all-powerful being. This being said, "Let there be light," and it was so in an instant. He graces everyday with light, nature, happiness, and everything else that can be considered good in our beautiful world. That is why we must pray and worship His giant noodly appendages everyday, and be thankful that he bestows upon us His overall meatiness. We must also capitalize his name to show that it is super duper important.

Since we all attend a Catholic school in Saint Joseph's College, it is easy for one focus on his or her own faith and simply hone that. I suggest that we give other options a chance! This is where the Flying Spaghetti Monster comes in, or simply abbreviated as "FSM." The FSM is an omnipotent being who flies around the sky whenever he pleases, and all while being invisible, which is pretty sweet. People who worship his Great Noodliness are known as Pastafarians. The Pastafar-

ian belief is one that somewhat resembles Christianity, which is appealing, right?

At the beginning of time, The Flying Spaghetti Monster created the universe. The original Pastafarians were Pirates! Pirates are believed to be "absolute divine beings," at least as far as modern Pastafarians are concerned. However, their reputation was tarnished by Christian theologians, who twisted their image into thieves and outcasts, when in fact they are fun loving buccaneers who loved to spread joy and candy. Pirates are so divine they actually have an effect on the climate. If you notice, the steady decline in pirates has had an adverse effect on the Earth itself. Less pirates results in more natural disasters such as increasing hurricanes, volcanoes, and earthquakes, but it also means something much worse. As the pirate population decreases, the temperature of the earth increases, in turn, global warming! I know you probably don't think pirates are important, but think again. So-



TOUCHED BY HIS NOODLY APPENDAGE

The Flying Spaghetti Monster and Adam at the moment of creation. This picture, of course, is not meant to be viewed literally, but rather as a symbolic message to all people that we need to open ourselves up to being touched by his noodly appendages. (Photo courtesy of: [http://kidiqarus222.blogspot.com/loaded\\_images/ivins/afghettimonster-747557.jpg](http://kidiqarus222.blogspot.com/loaded_images/ivins/afghettimonster-747557.jpg)).

malia has the highest concentration of pirates, while their carbon emissions essentially prove this theory to be factual.


Pastafarians also celebrate unique holidays. They celebrate "International Talk Like a Pirate Day" on the nineteenth of September. They also celebrate a holiday cleverly named "Holiday," which takes place around late December. A number of religions have tried to co-opt this time for their own holidays, but never fear, for Pastafarians accept everyone! Activities around this holiday include any kind of celebrating. It is not specific to any day or time, so any time around this period is known as Holiday. It also embraces the phrase "Happy Holidays" which is already popular and thus convenient! Also, make

sure to pick up your copy of "The Gospel of The Flying Spaghetti Monster." This book is essential for any serious Pastafarian! If you follow all of the books guidelines, you will ascend to Heaven, which has a beer volcano and a stripper factory, nice perks indeed.

The point of this article is not simply to inform you of the Flying Spaghetti Monster. Not everyone will be interested in that. The point is this: don't take yourselves too seriously, and be open to new things. Some people come to a Catholic college to reinforce their beliefs, which is great! It is awesome to be steadfast in your faith, but I am simply suggesting that you see the other side, and keep an open mind. Don't go around telling people you are right and they are wrong (or at

least not vague acquaintances), ask questions! Just because you believe one thing doesn't mean that you cannot understand and learn another concept whether it be religion or another controversial topic.

Don't be afraid to challenge conventionality; it is a great way to learn. Don't let the title of something being a "social no-no" scare you off from having a discussion. You can have great talks about things that some people aren't completely comfortable with. A wise man once said, "Were not in high school anymore, fam," which means we can talk about things! This is "The Joe" and we can talk about... whatever!



Happy Holidays!!

Greeting cards are a common way to show your loved ones you care during the Holiday Season. (Photo courtesy of: [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/\\_aRxPMXDxDxs/S0zhwvkFV1I/AAAAAAAAAJM/gNgnOjA8XDo/s320/happy-holidays-card-flying-spaghetti-monster.gif](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_aRxPMXDxDxs/S0zhwvkFV1I/AAAAAAAAAJM/gNgnOjA8XDo/s320/happy-holidays-card-flying-spaghetti-monster.gif))

# Faculty Profiles

## This Week’s Profile: Randy O.

By Andrew Dudich  
Staff Writer

*The Observer* is proud to present Faculty Profile, a deeper look at the people that make Saint Joseph’s College tick. Each issue has a special insider interview with a different SJC faculty member, giving you, the students, and in-depth and behind the scenes look into the people who you see every day. This week is devoted to the faculty member who has served at SJC the longest, far surpassing Father Gilbert’s prestigious service which began in 1961. The staff of *The Observer* is pleased to present the following interview with SJC’s oldest faculty member, Randy O.

**AD:** Professor O, I understand that you have served at the college for a great many years. Could you elaborate on some of your duties over the years?

**RO:** Well as one ages, he or she tends to forget the earlier parts of their lives, and much becomes clouded after death. I began at the Joe as a young priest who taught basic courses; however, I’ve translated most of my efforts to supporting the music and theater departments in the last fifty years or so.

**AD:** Is this why you live in the theater?

**RO:** That’s a complex question. Firstly, spirits that do not pass on often remain near the location that had the most dramatic or spiritual impacts on their lives. This is often the site of their death. My life corporeally ended in the theater, and I chose to remain there. However, it also has several alluring perks. The North Wing of the Arts and Sciences Building is one of the most exciting spots on campus. One can watch the Columbian Players rehearsing their performances, the improv group practicing, or the choir raising their voices to God. Speaking of which, I encourage all of the readers to come out to see the Players’ upcoming production of *Postmortem* this weekend. It’s sure to be a smash!

**AD:** Some of the Players have mentioned they have had props moved during performances or hear disembodied voices through the headsets. Would you have anything to do with that?

**RO:** [coughs] I don’t have the faintest idea of what you’re talking about...

**AD:** There have also been music students citing a piano playing without anyone there.

**RO:** That one I’ll fess up to. I’ve spent the last few years writing an opera. It’s something of Handel’s

*Messiah* meets *The Barber of Seville*. I’m hoping that Geraci will produce it since he did such a great job with *The Cask of Amontillado*.

**AD:** It seems you keep yourself quite busy. Do you ever get lonely being a spirit?

**RO:** It’s all in how you look at it. On the one hand, I’m stuck between two worlds. I can’t move on, but I’m not really here either. But on the other hand, I have a chance to catch up on all of my hobbies I didn’t have a chance to in life. In addition, I’m able to watch over my students, give them pointers where I can, and keep them safe from some of the more malicious entities.

**AD:** Could you give us some examples of the other “entities” on campus?

**RO:** I’d rather not. It’s not something I should really discuss, and you shouldn’t either. All you need to know is you shouldn’t go looking for trouble, because you’ll find it and wish you hadn’t.

**AD:** Okay... I’ll make a note of that. Switching up topics, where does your name, “Randy O.”, come from?

**RO:** As I mentioned before, after death, you tend to forget a great many things, names being one of them. I decided to take the name “Randy” from the jazz musician, Randy Brooks. He played a mean

trumpet and was touring by the age of eleven. He went on to play for Les Brown’s Band of Renown. I used to play their albums all the time!

**AD:** And the “O”?

**RO:** Ah, yes. The “O” is for organ, my primary instrument. Whereas he played trumpet, I’m the Randy Brooks of the pipe organ. I’m so glad we have one here in the theater.

**AD:** I have one final question for you. Humans tend to have a fear of death, a fear of the unknown that awaits us. What can we

expect after life? Should we be afraid?

**RO:** That is a very good question, but one I cannot give a concrete answer to. Everyone has the ability to make their own life. In that way, they also fashion their own death. Not the way they die, but what happens to them afterwards. We’re not allowed to intervene in human affairs or give instructions on how to live life. Then again, Jesus came back from the dead to preach, and people still didn’t listen to Him. What could I do that He didn’t try? All I can say is to use the gift of life



Students hang out in the Saint Joseph’s College theater, the favorite haunt of faculty member Randy O. Can the reader spot Randy in this picture?

(Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.)

# HARD NOT TO “LIKE”

By Michael Garrity  
Features Editor

It’s nigh impossible to find anyone in modern day America who doesn’t have an account on Facebook. It would be even harder to find someone who hasn’t at least heard of the immensely popular social networking site. What many people don’t (or didn’t) know about the site was the sordid history that surrounds its creation. Author Ben Mezrich attempted to tell this story in his book *The Accidental Billionaires*, which chronicles the history and drama attached to Facebook and its now notorious founder, Mark Zuckerberg. Just a year after the book’s release, *The Social Network*, the film adaptation of Mezrich’s work, hit theaters.

Mezrich’s story was adapted for the screen by *West Wing* creator Aaron Sorkin and directed by David Fincher, who last made *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*. This Hollywood dream team came together to create a wonderful docudrama that loosely adapts the story of years and years worth of coding work and lawsuits by Zuckerberg into a dramatic, sexy romp full of deceit and debauchery. The result is a truly wonerful film that, while it may take some creative liberties, finally tells the world the story

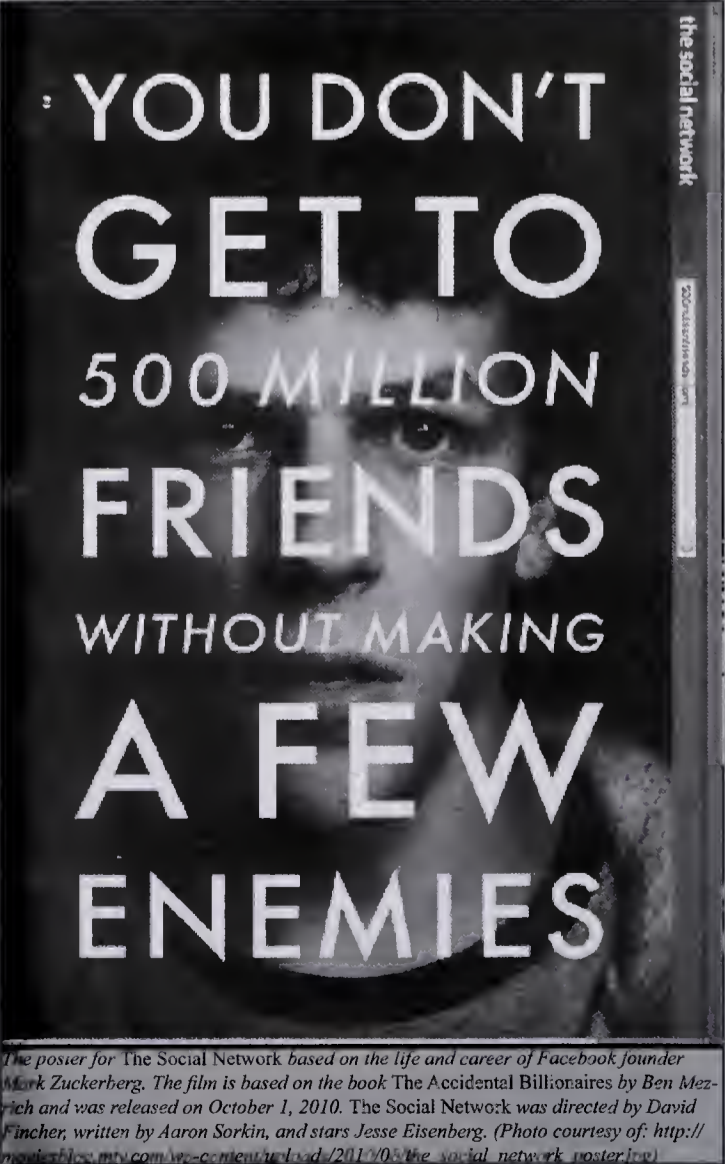
behind Facebook.

To play the role of Zuckerberg, Fincher and Sorkin enlisted *Zombieland* actor Jesse Eisenberg. Normally known for his dry wit and Michael Cera impression, Eisenberg steps into the role of the Facebook founder and owns it. No matter how much of a creep Zuckerberg may appear to be at times in the film, Eisnberg keeps him human and makes it hard to ever really hate the decidedly anti-social genius who, ironically, brought millions of people together.

The incredibly hard-hitting opening scene features Sorkin’s trademark fast-paced and cutting dialogue and ends with Zuckerberg being dumped by his girlfriend at the time. A sophomore at Harvard University, Zuckerberg returns to his room and begins to enact his revenge on all women by creating “FaceMash,” a site that uses pictures of nearly every female student at the university and asks other students to vote on who is the more attractive. He is later approached by the Winklevoss twins, two Harvard upper-classmen who come from a considerably wealthy background, who have heard of Zuckerberg’s exploits and ask for his help in creating a social networking

site based solely on exclusivity. Zuckerberg takes this idea and runs, but without the twins. He enlists his wealthy friend Eduardo Saverin to fund his project, and The Facebook is born. Eventually, things begin to grow and after Napster creator Sean Parker (played by Justin Timberlake) gets involved, it becomes bigger than anyone could have predicted. Eventually, Zuckerberg finds himself facing two huge lawsuits, one against the Winklevoss’ and one from Saverin, and that is where the film begins, telling the rest of the story through flashback sequences.

What really makes this film work is that it does not rely on people’s knowledge of Facebook to make it interesting. The site is rarely shown in the film at all. The film, in fact, seems to intentionally avoid any tounge-in-cheek or unnecessary references to Facebook entirely, instead focusing its attention on the story of the troubled individual that is Zuckerberg. The narrative is well-crafted and the dialogue is top-notch. The film is by far Eisenberg’s best performance to date, as well, and probably a career maker. *The Social Network* shoud easily be in the running for a Best Picture nomination this year.



# Tennis Team Looking As Good As Last Year

By **Katee Sanderson**  
Staff Writer

The Lady Puma tennis team finished up the fall season with a perfect record of four wins and no losses. This may not come as much as a surprise since the Lady Pumas are following a 2009-2010 campaign where they went 20-5 and qualified for the NCAA Division II Championship. Just two starters returned to the team this fall, Sophomore Katee Sanderson and Junior Samantha Busch, but the girls haven't missed a beat.

With five new additions to the team, (four Freshmen and one red shirt Sophomore), things are looking up. The Pumas trampled Goshen College, defeated Earlham College, and won in a double-header against Purdue-Calumet. The team has only lost a total of two points this fall.

Freshman Katie Guernsey has more than proven herself by acquiring an undefeated record this season. This includes both her singles and doubles play. Debra Easton-Bates has proven herself eager to get on the court this year with an undefeated singles record. Junior Samantha Busch, has remained undefeated in singles and doubles play, despite fighting some shoulder injuries.

Fellow Junior Natalie Burgeson stepped into her older sister's shoes this year with an undefeated singles record. Lone

Senior Emily Thieme, has done a great job this fall in doubles play, and has also stepped up to the plate in singles competition when the team most needed it due to various injury problems.

A true Freshman phenom, Marie Kegley, stepped in to fill the number two singles spot in addition to partnering up with Katee Sanderson at number one doubles this year. "The fall season provided me with a chance to experience college tennis for the first time, and the Pumas did so successfully ending the season undefeated," Kegley said.

Kegley, like the rest of the team, has set high goals for herself as the year progresses, "As the spring season quickly approaches, I expect to continue to improve my physical game along with my mental game and grow closer to my doubles partner and the rest of the girls on the team."

The Spring Season kicks off in February with a match against Division I Valparaiso University. The Pumas are looking forward to this challenging season. They are also traveling to Hilton Head, South Carolina for Spring Break, which will give them a chance to bond, and be challenged early on in the main season.



Junior Samantha Busch courtesy Saint Joseph's College's Web Page



Sophomore Katee Sanderson courtesy Saint Joseph's College's Web Page

## Kicking Through The Season

By **Corey Dowds**  
Staff Writer

It is time to talk soccer. After the success of the United States in the World Cup this past summer, Americans around the nation have rediscovered (or just discovered, in many cases) their love for soccer, and Saint Joseph's College is no exception. With everyone's passion renewed, the Puma Men's soccer team is poised and on pace to have a great season this year.

The Men's soccer team this season is arguably one of the better sports team in recent SJC history. They have kicked off their season with a great record of 7-4-1. This includes impressive wins over Northern Kentucky, Wisconsin Parkside, and Oakland City.

The Puma Men have squeezed out a few close games, as well as a couple of missed opportunities and losses by only a single goal. I went to soccer player Mike Zambon to get the scoop on some of the hottest questions about the Puma Men's soccer team.

Q: What do you contribute your success to?

A: Our team plays for one

another and that mentality has gotten us through many tough games

Q: How is team chemistry overall, especially relating to

chemistry with freshman and new members?

A: The new guys have really stepped and had to mature and adapt quickly to playing in the GLVC we have a tough league and they had to learn on the run. Its been great watching them develop into complete players.

Q: What are the Men's goals for the season?

A: Make the conference tournament something that has not been accomplished in awhile and make the NCAA tournament.

The Pumas this season are poised to accomplish their goals and have a successful season. Mike Zambon would like to offer this final word: "I just want to thank our fans they have been very supportive at our home games and can be considered our "12th" man out there."



(Above) Cole Galloway running for the ball as the Pumas win. (Photo by Father Tim McFarland C.P.P.S.)

# PUMA FOOTBALL KING OF HOMECOMING

By **Ken Badylak**  
Director of Sports Information

Billy VandeMerkt (Fr., Riverside, Ill./Riverside Brookfield) returned to action on Saturday to help the Saint Joseph's College football team continue its offensive prowess. SJC produced 365 yards of total offense in a 37-7 victory over Notre Dame College at Alumni Stadium.

VandeMerkt easily found a rhythm as the Pumas (3-3) operated down field on multiple occasions in the first quarter, but were unable to make the key third play to continue the drives. However, in the final seconds of the quarter, Jashon Banks (Sr., Kankakee, Ill./Kankakee) capped off an eight play, 80 yard drive with a five-yard touchdown run.

The SJC defense halted the ensuing Falcon (2-5) drive as Anthony Rouba (Jr., Chicago, Ill./St. Laurence) fell back into coverage to intercept Justin Flowers' pass at the NDC 39 yard line. Later in the second quarter, the Pumas started another scoring drive on the Falcons' 23-yard line after a defensive stop and a brilliant punt return by David Wallace (Sr., Hammond, Ind./Morton).

With a short field to work with, VandeMerkt scored the game's second touchdown with a one-yard run on third and

goal. Kevin Quackenbush (Jr., Indianapolis, Ind./Perry Meridian) added a 40-yard field goal to end half as the Pumas took a 16-0 lead into the lockerroom.

SJC's second possession of the half resulted in a five-yard touchdown reception by Rouba who was featured on the Pumas offensive goal line package. Five plays later the SJC defense scored a touchdown for the second consecutive game. Kenneth Lee (So., Indianapolis, Ind./Lawrence Central) intercepted Flowers' pass on the NDC 40-yard line. After a four yard return, Lee pitched the ball back to Rod Gray (Sr., Chicago, Ill./Whitney Young) who finished the play 36 yards later in the end zone.

The Pumas lead 30-0 after three quarters and behind a solid offensive line the running game began to take the predominate role. The SJC offensive line did not allow a sack and was able to grind-out another scoring drive in the fourth quarter to solidify the victory.

Billy VandeMerkt completed 17 of 26 passes for 210 yards with one touchdown pass and one touchdown run. Jashon Banks recorded a game high 109 yards on 26 carries and two touchdowns while Mack Ogletree (RSr., Cincinnati, Ohio/Lockland) made eight catches for 123 yards. Kenneth Lee made a team-high

eight tackles on the afternoon. Anthony Rouba finished with four tackles, two tackles for a loss, a sack, and an interception.



(Right) Cody Blue protects Billy Vandemerkt as the offense leads the Pumas to a victory. (Photo by Father Tim McFarland C.P.P.S.) (Below) Pumas hold the line against Notre Dame College (Courtesy of Father Tim McFarland C.P.P.S.)



# Men's Basketball Ranks Tenth in the Country

By Ken Badylak

*Sports Information Director*

The Saint Joseph's College men's basketball team has been selected 10th in the country according to the Sporting News and Division II Bulletin in its pre-season rankings. SJC figures to be among the top contenders again in the upcoming 2010-11 campaign, but will have plenty of competition in the Midwest Region.

Findlay, the No. 1 pick by the Sporting News, fell in the opening round of the Midwest Regional last season, but with returning guard Nathan Hyde and transfer Kyle Caiola in the mix, the Oilers figure to be one of the top teams in a region that also has the second- and third-ranked teams in the Sporting News pre-season rankings.

Defending Great Lakes Valley Tournament champion Bellarmine is second in the Sporting News pre-season poll and Grand Valley State came in at No. 3. The Lakers saw their season end last year in Owensboro, Kentucky as the Pumas dramatically won the Regional Semifinal 78-76 in overtime.

The Pumas return three starters from the Regional Championship squad, including the Midwest Regional Most Outstanding Player Phillip Collins (RJr., Indianapolis, Ind./Pike). Collins averaged over 10 points a game last season and recorded a team high 53 steals.

Dayvon Sloan (So., Louisville, Ky./Waggener) saw most of his minutes coming off

the bench as he average over 11 points a game. Sloan scored 45 points after halftime in the Regional final as his clutch shot making force two of the three overtimes.

SJC opens their season November 15th at Ferris State University. Tip-off at Jim Wink Arena is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. EST.



*Sophomore Dayvon Sloan goes up for a layup. (Photo Courtesy of Father Tim McFarland C.P.P.S)*



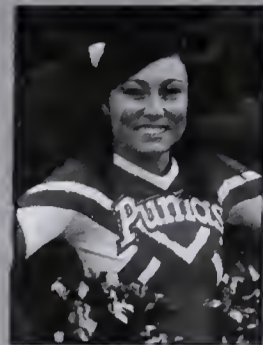
*Senior Michael Horton dribbles down the court. (Photo Courtesy of Father Tim McFarland C.P.P.S)*

## Puma Athlete Profile:

By: Hannah Sparks

*Staff Writer*

Samm Naples has been a Puma cheerleader for 3 years now, and before that was a cheerleader at Crown Point High School in Crown Point, IN. She grew up in Crown Point, but now lives in Naples, Florida, which is funny since her name is Naples.



Hometown: Crown Point, IN

Nickname: Sammbo

How long have you been cheering?: I have been cheering since the 3rd grade. I cheered in Pop Warner as a Jr. Bulldog Cheerleader and kept cheering until college.

What is your favorite food: Big Macs and mashed potatoes

What song do you have to listen to on your iPod?: Anything Glee! It is my absolute FAVORITE TV show.

What movie can you watch over and over again?: Step Brothers

Why: It's hilarious, duh.

What was your first job you ever had?: I worked at the Disney store in the mall.

Did you like it? Why or why not?: I loved it. I got to make kids happy and work with Princesses, and since I am a princess I feel at home.

What is your most embarrassing moment ever at St. Joe?: It would probably be slipping in the cafeteria my freshman year, or falling in the hallway a couple of days ago.

What is one thing that people don't know about you?: I can hula hoop like a beast. I won the hula hoop competition at Puma Night my sophomore year. I went for 12 minutes.

If you could play a different sport at the Joe what would it be?: I would play soccer.

Why?: I played in high school

And lastly, what is your favorite quote?: "Some people are settling down, some people are just settling, and some people refuse to settle for anything less than butterflies." - Sex in the City

# Preview of the Blackhawks Upcoming Year

By Jeremy Butterfield

*Sports Editor*

During the 09-10 season in the NHL the Chicago Blackhawks had the 3rd best record at the end of the regular season and then eventually won the Stanley Cup. This is the top award for winning the postseason. That was last year and during the off-season they made a lot of changes to the players on the team. Even with a Stanley Cup winning team the coaches and managers still took out a lot of players.

The team lost their two main goalies from last year, who really saved them during the playoffs. They also lost a big presence in the defense side of the puck in a 6ft 5in defender Dustin Byfuglien (buf-lin). But as they released Dustin they received John Scott a 6ft 8in tall defender, who has 2 years of NHL experiences under his belt

At the same time they kept all of the big name players that a lot of people know. Unfortunately they did not keep enough, their top scorers can only play so much during each game. With some of the new talent they got from the

draft and trading they will not be making an impact this season it seems like so far.

They got six new players with one of them being a new goalie, and with new goalies they need to try and get used to how each team will call plays differently or how they want a tempo to go during a game. The new goalie Marty Turco has 9 years of experience in the NHL and they have all been with the Dallas Stars.

Compared to last year and how lots of critics and reports are treating them this is going to be a long year. When you are the defending champs of the league lots of team will be coming after you. Joel Quenneville who is the coach of the team has been saying he needs to keep his team on their toes. Just because they won it last year does not mean they are going to be winning it again this year.

With only 8 games into the new season the Blackhawks do not need to change everything they are doing but they need to be cautious that April 10 does not come sneaking up on them to end the season badly. They



*Blackhawks players celebrate with fans. (Photo courtesy of www.nhl.com)*

were predicted to come in 2nd in their division and 3rd in the conference, with 74 games still to play the league is still a long way away from making any final decisions on the Blackhawks or the season.



## Karma and the Cosmos

By Crystal Gaze



### Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)

The positive attitude you have had these past few weeks is starting to rub off on others around you. Feel free to bask in the good mood surrounding you these days, and as long as you keep your good attitude going, so will everyone else.

### Taurus (Apr. 20-May. 19)

Well, you thought that all of your hard work was over and that you were going to get the payoff, but it turns out the toil has just begun. Now would be a good time to stock up on caffeine and motivational posters; construction lies ahead.

### Gemini (May 20-June 20)

You have been feeling like a star these days, no matter what goes right or wrong. Don't let your energy drop just yet, you have so many people waiting to see what else you're doing to do. Don't let them down!

### Cancer (June 21-July 21)

Throwing a tea party for your enemies is the thing to do! There isn't a more diplomatic way to approach those who have scorned you, so extend the first hand and reap the rewards. The only person more famous than a sower of discord is a sower of peace.

### Leo (July 22-Aug. 22)

Nobody can predict your next move these days, so use this element of surprise to your advantage. Keep everyone on their toes, because you might have caught the eye of some very important people.

### Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 21)

Your last few moves on the battlefield have only resulted in casualties on your own side. Put your guns away for the next few weeks and remain calm. The battle of life will calm down and then you can feel free to make your next move.

### Libra (Sept. 22- Oct. 22)

Well, the fair and square libras have had their visions clouded by bias and disfavor, and this has only resulted in poor decisions. Take a few days to yourself; it will allow you to find a new perspective that will be more uplifting.

### Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You have been nothing short of a good friend, student, and person lately, and everyone has noticed. You will make even more new friends now that the world knows just how sweet you really are. This can only be yet another positive asset.

### Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 20)

Don't think of all that has been happening as a load of horse manure, think of it as a time to cultivate new growth in your life. Maybe your last few fields have been a little bare, and you in fact need all the fertilizer you're getting.

### Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 1)

There is no need to dwell on the last few weeks, only sunshine is ahead of you. Smile.

### Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 17)

Nothing in this life that's worth having comes easily, and you're finally finding this out. Instead of whining and crying about how unfair this is, try picking up the hand you're dealt and figuring out how to play the game.

### Pisces (Feb. 18-Mar. 20)

Stop turning down opportunities. Though they are being thrown at you left and right at the moment, your deluge will soon stop. Do you want to be left empty-handed? I think not. So get your catcher's mit on and try to grab the last few coming your way. Otherwise, get ready for the drought...

### Fountain Stone Theaters

Movies for September 20  
(219) 866-2222  
fountainstonetheaters.com

Jackass (R)  
Mon.-Thurs. 5:15, 7:15

Legend of the Guardians (PG)  
Mon-Thurs: 5:10, 7:10

Life As We Know It (PG-13)  
Mon-Thurs: 5:00, 7:00

The Social Network (PG-13)  
Mon.-Thurs: 4:45, 6:55

Red (PG-13)  
Mon-Thurs: 5:05, 7:05

#### Coming Soon!

Paranormal Activity 2  
and  
Due Date

## Overheard Say What?

*If you've heard anything scandalous at the cafeteria, anything outrageous enough that you can't keep it to yourself, then look no further! Submit your anonymous comments to mbp6978@saintjoe.edu today to let your peers' voices be heard!*

"I saw the Social Network. Is it bad that I was turned on every time the Facebook guy talked?"

"I think we need to bomb Japan more often."

"Simmer down, Clint Eastwood! His face is so intense!"

"He tossed his hippie ball at me and said 'Hold my sack'."

"Well by your logic, you must also think that Daniel Day Lewis is a murderous alcoholic."

"Jesus frowns upon your shennanigans."

"Doesn't Carl Rove scare you too?"

What are these crazy characters saying? Fill in the bubbles with your own input, banter, or silly phrases and send your responses to mbp6978@saintjoe.edu to see your responses printed in the next issue! Please keep the responses PG-13 and get ready for another photograph in the upcoming issue. Also, be sure to include your name and year in your response.

In photograph below: Caleb Tanner Thomas (Sophomore)

### This week's photograph:



### Responses from last week:

Guy between the ladies: "Who's the playa now, huh?!"

Guy: "Polygamy's legal in Utah, right?"

Guy: "I wonder how long I can keep my hand on her butt before she notices..."

Guy: "This is what happens when your sister AND your cousin can't find a date."

Guy: "Ya snooze ya lose, Caleb!"

Guy: "Oh my God! Oh my God! It's the President! Hey Mr. President! Oh look, there are two girls next to me..."

Guy: "Well, at least one of them is going to be able to smell it."

Guy: "FaceMash says...the right one!"

### The Ritz Cinema

Movies for September 20  
(219) 866-0086

The American (R)  
Saturday and Sunday 7:30

#### Coming Soon!

(To be announced)  
Cats & Dogs  
Alpha and Omega  
Due Date

### The Kissing Booth:

By Mary Anne Milkowski (Senior)  
Celebrity Writer

Question: "There's this girl I really like, but I don't think she's noticed me. How can I get her attention in a good way?"

First off, you want to smile a ton, and be extremely approachable. At the very least you'll get a comfortable reputation as a likeable kinda guy. As far as specific action goes, I suppose you could avoid stalking, but technology has sadly favored this approach. Don't come off too eager or threatening, this could lead her to believe that you treat her in the same fashion as any regular old Jane. Try complimenting her on something that is unique, so she doesn't have to wonder if she is compared to other women. Women often do things to their hair that they consider to be unique, though it often goes unnoticed in the male world. So for once, maybe, try noticing her expensive highlights.